

Borough



of Crewe.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer

of Health,

1942.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Borough of Crewe

BY

J, D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.,

Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of
Isolation Hospital and Maternity Home,
Medical Officer in Charge of
Maternity and Child
Welfare.

BOROUGH OF CREWE.



Health Committee 1942.

Chairman.

ALDERMAN J. SMITH, J.P.



Members :

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR F. FARR, J.P.)

ALDERMAN R. DUTTON.

" W. R. FOULKES, J.P.

" W. C. WHITE, J.P.

" E. POWELL,

COUNC. A. BLOSS.

" A. H. BRICKER.

" J. B. HERRING.

" J. S. HOBSON.

" H. J. LAWTON.

" J. A. MADELEY, J.P.

COUNC. Mrs. E. L. MOSSFORD

POWELL, J.P., C.C.

" E. T. ROBERTS.

" C. WELCH.

" Mrs. F. E. WHITE.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee 1942.

Chairman.

COUNCILLOR Mrs. F. E. WHITE.

Members :

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR F. FARR, J.P.)

ALDERMAN F. BOTT, M.B.E., J.P.

" R. DUTTON.

" J. SMITH, J.P.

" W. C. WHITE, J.P.

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" A. H. BRICKER.

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" J. S. HOBSON.

" J. H. L. JONES.

" H. J. LAWTON.

" J. A. MADELEY, J.P.

COUNC. Mrs. E. L. MOSSFORD

POWELL, J.P., C.C.

" R. PEACH.

" W. RIGBY.

" E. T. ROBERTS.

" Mrs. E. THEWLIS J.P.

" C. WELCH.

Co-opted Members :

MRS. ANDRESS.

" BLOSS.

" BUXTON.

" BENNETT.

" PALLITT.

" PARKINSON.

" WARDLE.

Public Health Services.

A—Medical.

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of the Maternity Home (whole-time).

CHRISTINA R. LAING, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer, Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

A. A. GEMMELL, M.C., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S., Liverpool, Consultant for Obstetrics.

R. H. RICHMOND, O.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S., Stoke-on-Trent, and

J. GARDINER WIGLEY, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Hale, Cheshire, Consultants for Puerperal Pyrexia.

BRUCE MACLEAN, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Newcastle, Staffs, Consultant Physician, Isolation Hospital.

B—Others.

SANITARY INSPECTORS :

H. Y. STAZICKER (1, 2 and 3), Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts (Whole-time).

W. HAZELDINE (4) Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time).

R. E. PLATT (3 and 4) Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time).

J. L. NOXON (1 and 3) Sanitary Inspector, Whole-time).

E. A. BAGGULEY (1 and 3) Temporary Junior District Sanitary Inspector (whole-time).

J. L. STRINGER, Sanitary Inspector's Assistant (whole-time).

HEALTH VISITORS AND NURSES.

M. ROUEN (5 and 6).

E. WILSON (6).

J. MANNING (5 and 6).

CLERICAL STAFF.

R. W. LEACH and MISS E. SHEPLEY, Clerks in Medical Officer's Dept.

T. C. SIMPSON and J. B. HARDMAN, Clerks in Sanitary Inspector's Office.

Isolation Hospital.

Matron (D. WILLIAMS), Sister, Nurses, Maids, Ambulance Driver, Porter, Gardener.

Maternity Home.

Matron (M. E. WALTON) Sister, Midwives, Maids, Gardener.

- (1) *Member Royal Sanitary Institute.*
- (2) *Member Institute of Cleansing Superintendents.*
- (3) *Member Sanitary Inspector's Association.*
- (4) *Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.*
- (5) *Certificate Central Midwives Board.*
- (6) *General Trained Nurse.*

MEMBERS OF STAFF AT PRESENT SERVING WITH H.M. FORCES.

C. BENNETT (3 and 4) Sanitary Inspector.
Joined H.M. Forces 16th October, 1939.

D. W. COOKE (4) Temporary Sanitary Inspector's Assistant.
Joined H.M. Forces 14th July, 1939.

R. S. BAKER, Clerk.
Joined H.M. Forces 25th September, 1939.

A. J. LAWTON, Clerk.
Joined H.M. Forces 31st May, 1941.

W. S. ASTALL, Sanitary Inspector's Assistant (whole-time).

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Maternity and
Child Welfare Committees.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the Health Conditions in the Borough of Crewe during the year 1942.

For reasons of economy the report has been abbreviated as much as possible, and for security reasons no figures of population are given.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	4414 acres.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£258,070
Sums Represented by the Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1010

Births and Deaths.

The live birth rate was 18.9 per 1000 of the population. Still births represented 3.2% of the total births. The birth rate in England and Wales was 15.8 per 1000 of the population.

The Infantile Mortality was 32.7 per 1000 births. In England and Wales the Infantile Mortality was 49.

The death rate per 1000 of the population was 12.7. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.6 per 1000.

Poor Law Relief.

I am indebted to Mr. W. Owen, Public Assistance Officer, for the following information :

					Half Year ending 1942.	
					31st Mar.	30th Sept.
Number of indoor poor relieved.						
Not able bodied	...	...	...	...	84	80
Insane	...	...	...	...	3	10
Children	...	...	...	...	9	7
Number of outdoor poor relieved in the Borough						
	...	...	...	...	571	495
Cost of outdoor relief	...	...	...	...	£3452	£3119
Number of vagrants relieved	...	...	...	...	—	—

Laboratory Facilities.

					1942	
					Positive	Negative.
Swabs for Diphtheria	...	...	...	255		1231
Sputum for Tubercle bacilli	...	...	...	—		13
Cerebro-spinal fluid	...	...	...	...		1
Pus for gonococci	—		1

County Council Scheme.

Sputum for Tubercle bacilli	13	114
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Ante-Natal Clinic.

During 1942, 9 expectant mothers attended.

Post-Natal Clinic.

In 1942, one mother attended.

Maternity Home.

Admissions during 1942 number 316, of whom 48 came from addresses outside the Borough.

Of these cases 266 were attended by a medical man, and 50 by the Midwives of the Home.

The average duration of stay was 13 days.

242 expectant mothers made 1152 visits in 1942.

The number of cases admitted as Emergencies was 25.

Work of Health Visitors.

							1942.
Visits under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	2196
Re-visits 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3019
Visits to illegitimate infants	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
First visits to Ante-natal cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Re-visits to Ante-natal cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Visits to Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Visits to cases of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Special Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Lost Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	954

Babies sleeping alone were 91.3% in 1942.

Babies breast fed entirely at the time of the first visit were 57.7% in 1942.

Work of Welfare Centre.

			Attendances	Consultations
Ludford Street Centre	...	...	2285	1138
St. John's Centre	...	...	3157	1326

Boarded-out Children.

The number of boarded out children on the register at the end of 1942 was 11.

Orthopaedic Cases.

The number of children under school age who attended the Orthopaedic Centre in 1942 was 44.

Infectious and Other Diseases.**DIPHTHERIA.**

In 1942 the number of cases notified was 220.

The ages of children protected against diphtheria in 1942 were

0-1	10	4-5	190	8-9	76
1-2	169	5-6	403	9-10	76
2-3	186	6-7	80	10-11	55
3-4	159	7-8	37	11-12	63
				12-15	108

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified was 232.

Other Diseases.

Six cases of cerebro-spinal fever were notified in 1942.

Isolation Hospital.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Others	Total
In Hospital at end of 1941	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	7
Admitted during 1942...	202	212	6	1	1	6	12	440
Total	203	218	6	1	1	6	12	447
Discharged 1942	192	185	6	1	1	6	12	403
Died 1942	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
In Hospital at end of 1942	11	28	—	—	—	—	—	39

Ambulance Facilities.

The Corporation maintained five ambulances, two for the conveyance of infectious disease cases and three for non-infectious cases and accidents.

The total number of journeys made during the year was 1,553 and the distance covered was 31,082 miles.

Closet Accommodation.

At the end of the year, the number of closets of each type in the Borough was :

Water Closets	...	...	...	...	14,974
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	963
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	211
Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	5

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The refuse collection service was maintained satisfactorily throughout the year. 13 motor vehicles (including 2 specially for the collection of food scraps and 2 spares) are used for the collection of household and trade refuse, 1 for the collection of nightsoil and 1 for refuse disposal.

Amount of household refuse collected	...	...	9725 tons.
Amount of garden refuse collected	...	...	117 „
Amount of trade refuse collected	...	...	553 „

2,511 tons of shop and factory refuse were also brought to the Works for disposal, making a total of 12,906 tons of refuse dealt with during the year. 9,565 tons or 74.1% passed through the Works, the remainder being disposed of by controlled tipping.

The estimated amount of nightsoil collected including collections from A.R.P. posts and shelters and military and R.A.F. sites was 313 tons.

Sanitary Inspections.

Nature and Number of Inspections made.	Number	No. of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices		Prosecut's	
		Informal	Statutory	Notices complied with	Remaining in hand	Instituted	Pending
1 Dwelling Houses ...	194	183	15	131	67	...	...
2 Dwelling Houses (Inspection under Housing Act, 1936) ...	155	140	36	67	109	...	...
3 Back-to-back Houses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Verminous Houses... ..	143	19	...	19	...	...	...
6 Privy Pails, Ashpails, etc	1287	430	105	526	9	...	...
7 Courts, Yards & Passages	3	2	...	...	2	...	...
8 House Drainage ...	1200	78	90	168	...	...	...
9 Ditches, Water Courses, etc	40	2	...	2	...	...	...
10 Offensive Accumulations ...	20	3	...	3	...	...	...
11 Keeping of Animals ...	6	2	...	1	1	...	...
12 Offensive Trades ...	16	24	...	24	...	...	...
13 (a) Slaughterhouses ...	513	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other places where food is sold ...	1875	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Piggeries ...	65	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 (a) Cowsheds ...	220	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Dairies & Milkshops ...	238	111	...	110	1	...	...
16 (a) Factories (with Mechanical Power) ...	57	1	...	1	...	...	...
(b) Factories (with no Mechanical Power) ...	61	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers Premises...	...	18	...	18	...	...	...
17 Bakehouses ...	141	43	...	43	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses	137	8	...	8	...	...	...
19 Shops under Shops Acts ...	468	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Smoke Observations ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
21 Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inquiries and Re-visits ...	822	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Inspections under the Housing Act 1936 (Overcrowding) ...	58	...	...	...	...	...	...
23 Inspections re Salvage ...	2920	...	...	...	...	...	...
24 Miscellaneous ...	1234	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 Re-inspections ...	447	...	...	...	...	...	...
27 Samples under Food and Drugs Act ...	222	...	...	...	...	1	...
TOTAL ...	12563	1064	246	1121	189	1	...

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council Houses found to be infested	1
Number of Council Houses disinfested	1
Number of other houses found to be infested	18
Number of other houses disinfested	18

In addition to the above, 12 houses (including 1 Corporation house) were treated for beetles.

The work of disinfestation was carried out by employees of the Corporation under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors and the houses were sprayed with patent fumigant solutions from pressure sprayers.

Factories and Workplaces.

During the year, 122 inspections were made of factories and workplaces, while 12 lists were received from makers of wearing apparel relating to 3 outworkers.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 4 Common Lodging Houses in the Borough and the following table shows the number of persons who used them during 1942, with comparative figures for the two preceding years.

			Adults.		Children.	
			Males	Females	Males	Females.
1942	...	...	14028	1009	—	469
1941	...	...	15304	963	—	112
1940	...	...	16098	1171	—	—

During 1942, 137 inspections were made of these premises.

Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough. Rag and Bone Dealers—2; Gut Scraper—1; There is also 1 Knacker's Yard in the Borough.

Pig Keepers.

The number of persons keeping pigs on premises in the Borough is 58.

Rag Flock.

There are no premises in the Borough at which Rag Flock is manufactured but it is sold and used on four premises.

Schools.

The water supply and sanitary conveniences of the elementary schools in the Borough are satisfactory.

Housing Statistics.**Number of New Houses erected during the year.**

- (a) Total (including numbers given separately under b.)
- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. By the Local Authority | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| 2. By other Local Authorities | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| 3. By other bodies and persons | ... | ... | ... | ... | 250 |
- (b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.
- | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| By the Local Authority | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). ... 323
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 349
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 ... 140
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 155
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... —
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 323.

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 149

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 36

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after services of formal notices :

(a) By owners 13

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 2

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 15

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners 4

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 11

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 —

4. Housing Act 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 31

(2) Number of families therein 34

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 268

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 5

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 20

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 166

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... —

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of cowsheds occupied for production of milk in the Borough at the present time	50
Number of cowsheds up to the standard required by this Local Authority under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	49
Number of cowsheds which have not yet been brought up to the standard required by this Local Authority under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, in accordance with Statutory Notices and Lists of Recommendation from this Dept. ...	1

Inspection of Registered Premises.

458 inspections of registered premises were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

Retail Purveyors of Milk.

190 persons are registered to sell milk within the Borough from premises and vehicles, 121 are registered for the sale of sealed bottled milk only, making a total of 311 registered retail purveyors of milk.

Meat and other Foods.

Number of inspections of Slaughterhouses made during the year	513
Number of inspections of premises where food is stored or prepared or kept for sale.	1875
Number of inspections of bakehouses	141

The Ministry of Food have continued to use the Co-operative Society Slaughterhouse as the No. 1 Depot for this area, and the following is a tabulated statement of the types of animals slaughtered and inspected together with particulars of diseases found necessitating complete or partial condemnation :

Carcases Inspected and Condenned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	786	1406	783	8990	783
*Number inspected	787	1428	785	9074	786
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcases condemned	1	29	9	16	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	135	342	10	369	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	17.28%	25.98%	2.42%	424%	2.03%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcases condemned	4	38	...	...	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	165	547	3	...	131
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	21.48%	40.96%	0.38%	...	17.30%

NOTE—*These figures include additional animals slaughtered outside the Borough but inspected here.

Lbs.

DISEASE

DISEASE	Beef	Pork	Mutt'n	Veal	Bacon, Ham & Cooked Meats,	Fish	Eggs	Fruit & Veg.	Butter Sugar Marg. and & Che's Pres.	Cakes, Tinned Foods	Total
Tuberculosis.	10498	2681	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	43185
Dropsy	6847	31	376	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	7328
Septicaemia	2925	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2923
Fevered	2289	...	100	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	2482
Pyæmia	404	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	404
Jaundice	380	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	380
Uræmia	889	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	889
Percarditis	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Tumours	79	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Actinomycosis	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Parasites & Cysts	1976	5	731	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2717
Abscesses	1040	92	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1171
Angioma	507	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	507
Cirrhosis	875	3	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	897
Fatty Degeneration	520	...	10	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	534
Pleurisy & Pneumonia	217	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Congestion	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Necrosis	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Arthritis	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Moribund	...	...	45	169	...	...	...	...	...	...	214
Emaciation	...	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Injury...	2250	62	153	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	2539
Decomposition	1556	54	66	...	637	3132	661	2683	270	634	20051
TOTAL	63432	2986	1548	492	637	3132	661	2683	270	634	86833

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The following samples were taken during the year :

Bengers Food (1); Black Currant Tea (1); Black Puddings(1); Blancmange Powder (1); Biscuits, sweet (1); Butter (1); Camphorated Oil (1); Caster Oil (1); Celery Salt (1); Cheese (1); Cheese Powder (1); Cocktail No. 10 (2); Cocoa (1); Coffee (2); Cooking Fat (1); Curry Powder (1); Custard Powder (1); Dough Cakes (1); Dried Egg Powder (1); Egg Substitute Powder (1); Flour, Self Raising (1); Fluid Magnesia (1); Fruit Pastiles (1); Health Salts (1); Hydrogen Peroxide (1); Iodine, Tincture of (2); Jam (1); Jelly Powder (1); Lard (1); Lemon Cake Mixture (1); Lemon Substitute (1); Light Magnesia (2); Lime Juice and Soda (1); Lime Water (1); Liquorice Allsorts (1); Margarine (3); Milk (86); Mint in Vinegar (1); Mustard (2); Oatmeal (1); Oil of Eucalyptus (1); Oil of Wintergreen (1); Onion Flavouring (1); Orangeade (1); Parsley and Lemon Forcemeat (1); Pepper (1); Phenol Ointment (1); Rice (1); Sacarex Sweeteners (1); Sage and Onion Stuffing (1); Sardine and Tomato Spread (1); Sauce (1); Sausages (1); Semolina Powder (1); Skimmed Milk Powder (1); Soda Water (1); Sugar (1); Syrup (1); Sweet Spirit of Nitre (1); Tea (2); Vanilla Flavouring Essence (1); Vinegar (5); Wheatmeal Fruit Cake (1); Whey Powder (1); Wine Essence (1); Zinc Ointment (1); Total 163.

I give below particulars of the samples adulterated or otherwise not up to standard :

Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
Milk	2% deficient of its fat	Informal sample Subsequent samples proved genuine.
Onion Flavouring	Sample consisted of water containing negligible trace of the active principle of the onion.	Informal sample No further samples obtainable.
Vinegar	10% deficient of its acetic acid	Informal sample. Vendor cautioned

Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
Sacarex Sweeteners	Incorrectly labelled	Notified to the Ministry of Food.
Apricot Jam	2% deficient of soluble solids	Informal sample Vendor cautioned
Milk	Contained 2% of added water	Vendor cautioned
Milk	3% deficient of its fat	Informal sample Vendor cautioned.
Milk	Contained 2% of added water	Informal sample. Vendor cautioned.
Milk	3% deficient of its fat	Informal sample. Vendor cautioned.
Milk	3% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned. Subsequent samples proved genuine.
Milk	2% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned.
No. 10 Cocktail	Contained no fruit juices	Informal and formal samples taken. Proceedings instituted. Case dismissed.
Milk	7% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	3% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	8% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	4% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned.
Light Magnesia	Consisted of Magnesium Carbonate instead of Magnesium Oxide	Informal sample. Vendor cautioned
Milk	Contained 1% of added Water and 25% deficient of its fat	Further "Appeal to cow" sample unsatisfactory.
Milk	4% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	4% deficient of its fat.	Vendor cautioned. Subsequent samples proved genuine



